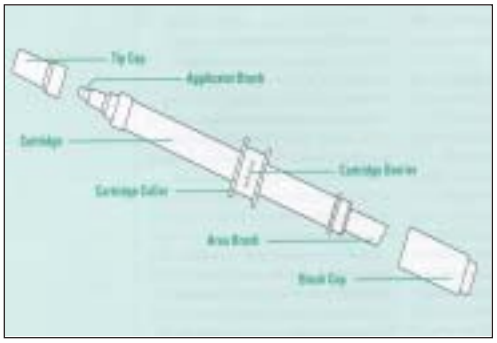
Navy Environmental Quality Fact Sheet

Do you perform touch-up painting on aircraft or vehicle surfaces?

Would you like to improve this process in the following areas?

- ***Meet environmental compliance regulations***. Reduce hazardous waste disposal and air emissions. Media areas include air and hazardous waste programs.
- ***Improve workers' safety and health***. Reduce worker exposure to harmful paint related VOCs.
- ***Increase productivity***. Reduce labor hours for paint mixing and touch-up painting operations.
- ***Save money***. Reduce hazardous waste disposal and paint procurement costs.



Single-Use Paint Pens

Single-use paint pens may be used as a replacement for paint spray equipment for touch-up painting operations. Maintenance personnel must treat corrosion on aircraft or vehicle surfaces by removing oxidation products and loose paint, then repairing the original paint finish. Typically, this is done using air-atomized paint spray equipment. The paints are supplied in two-component kits. Each component is taken from a quart or gallon can, mixed in a specific volume ratio. This method has many disadvantages, including: workers tend to use more material than necessary to assure sufficient coverage; the spray application requires respiratory protection for all personnel in the area; and, the excess paint must be processed as hazardous waste. Single-use paint pen kits offer an alternative to this method. This unique kit is designed to store, mix and apply small quantities of two-component paints. Approximately 10 milliliters of the base and curing agent are contained in a clear, plastic tube separated by an impermeable barrier. When the barrier is displaced, the two components are mixed by shaking. A narrow brush on one end is used to dispense and apply the mixed material. The single paint pen kits can be used to touch-up areas of one to two square feet and are available in a variety of colors. The empty paint pen can be disposed of as non-hazardous solid waste. ***This equipment is available through GSA.***

How can you achieve these improvements?

Use single-use paint pens for touch-up painting.

How does this equipment work?

The paint pen has two component paints in thin, pen-like, plastic containers. The paint can be easily mixed by shaking and then applied to surfaces with the brush applicator.

How will this equipment save you money?

Single-us paint pens can reduce hazardous waste disposal and paint procurement costs. Cost of these paint pens are about $10 each.

Typical Process Flow Diagram

How can this technology eliminate or reduce pollution?

This technology reduces the amount of paint materials traditionally used for touch-up painting. Use will result in the following pollution reductions:

- Reduce paint use and hazardous waste disposal.
- Reduce air emissions related to touch-up painting operations.

Which processes can benefit most from this technology?

This technology can be used in processes that require touch-up painting. Shops that could benefit include:

- Automotive Painting
- Aircraft Painting
- Support Equipment Painting
- Facilities Painting

How can this technology reduce regulatory compliance concerns?

This technology can reduce worker exposure to harmful paints and VOCs. Use will result in the following regulatory compliance benefits:

- Reduction in hazardous waste helps facility meet waste minimization requirement under RCRA 40 CFR 262.41 (a)(6).
- May help facilities reduce their generator status and lessen the tasks required to comply under RCRA, 40 CFR 262 (i.e. record keeping, reporting, inspections, transportation, accumulation time and emergency reponse measures).
- May reduce or eliminate local VOC requirements in ozone nonattainment and maintenance areas.

Achieving Environmental Compliance Through Pollution Prevention

Every day the Navy faces the challenge of operating and maintaining the fleet while complying with environmental regulations. This burden can be reduced by using pollution prevention technologies and methods to reduce compliance requirements. This fact sheet is one in a series designed to encourage activities to use pollution prevention technologies and methods. The overall goal of this series is to promote sustained environmental compliance at the lowest life-cycle cost.

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